

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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SUBJECT: DECEMBER 8 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

PRC SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED SPACE SATELLITE TUES, ACCORDING
NCNA DISPATCH--SECOND THIS YEAR, 7TH SINCE 1970 (WP; REUTER
TOKYO 12/7).

REUTER (PEKING) NOTES THAT FOR FIRST TIME IN MAJOR ANNOUNCE-
MENT, FRONT-PAGE PEOPLE'S DAILY REPORT ON SATELLITE
LAUNCHING FAILED REFER TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST TENG; SAYS
ABSENCE CRITICISM OF TENG INTERPRETED AS SIGN HE COULD BE
REHABILITATED.

HUANG HUA GREETED VISITING TANZANIAN VICE PRES WEDNESDAY IN
FIRST PUBLIC DUTY SINCE BEING APPOINTED FM; LI HSIEN-NIEN
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ALSO IN WELCOMING DEL (REUTER PEKING).

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD SAID TUES THAT PRC HAS BOUGHT 750,000
LONG TONS CANADIAN WHEAT--FIRST GRAIN PURCHASE BY NEW HUA

ADMIN. ACCORDING NYT'S MAIDENBERG, PRC ALSO REPORTEDLY NEGOTIATING TO BUY 200,000 BALES US COTTON--BUT TRADE SOURCES COULD PROVIDE NO FURTHER DETAILS.

AFTER PRC DEL CAST TOKEN VETO, WALDHEIM WON UNSC ENDORSEMENT TUES FOR SECOND TERM (WP SPEC). NYT'S GROSE SAYS CHINESE APPARENTLY SWITCHED TO SUPPORT WALDHEIM ON SECOND BALLOT.

FOR FIRST TIME IN YEARS, CHINESE PRESS WEDNESDAY PAID TRIBUTE TO MAO'S SECOND WIFE, YANG KAI-HUI. SAID VEIL OF SECRECY WHICH HAS LONG SHROUDED HER WAS WORK OF CHIANG CHING WHO FORBADE PUBLICITY ABOUT YANG'S "HEROIC DEEDS."

2. KOREA

HIGH ROKG OFFICIAL SAYS SK HAS DEMANDED US RETURN EX-ROK EMB OFFICER KIM SANG KEUN, SAID TO BE COOPERATING W/FBI IN PROBE KOREAN INFLUENCE-PEDDLING. OFFICIAL CLAIMS KIM NOT FREELY AIDING FEDS, BUT RATHER UNDER SUSPECTED FORCED DETENTION (REUTER SEOUL; ALSO, AFP AND CBS RADIO REPORT BY SCHLACTER).

FORMER ROKG ASSEMBLYWOMAN KIM OK SON CONVICTED ON CHARGES ELECTION LAW VIOLATIONS. SENTENCED 1 YR, BUT NOT JAILED AS VERDICT CARRIED 2-YR STAY (NYT SEOUL).

ROK POLICE WEDNESDAY BROKE UP RALLY BY SOME 300 STUDENTS AT SNU--STUDENTS DEMONSTRATING AGAINST ROKG AND "BRIBING ACTIVITIES" TONGSUN PARK (UPI SEOUL).

DOD ANNOUNCED TUES THAT US FORCES SK FELL BELOW 40,000 (TO 39,100) FOR 2ND TIME SINCE KOREAN WAR. ATTRIBUTED DROP TO "NORMAL PERSONNEL FLUCTUATIONS." ALSO SAID WILL SELL ROK NEARLY 16 MILL DOLS WORTH TRAINING AMMO (REUTER WASH 12/7).

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DR. CHOO CHAI YANG, PRES KOREA NUCLEAR FUEL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, TOLD TUES NEWS CONF THAT SK WILL BUILD PILOT URANIUM REFINERY WITHIN 2/3 YRS "TO LOCALIZE NUCLEAR FUEL" FOR ITS ATOMIC POWER PLANTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR STUDY (UPI, JOC).

3. JAPAN

MAJOR PAPERS REPORT MIKI EXPECTED RESIGN SOON, PERHAPS EARLY AS FRIDAY, AS BOTH PM/LDP PRES. MIKI HAS TOLD 3 TOP-RANKING LDP EXECS HE FEELS "GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY" FOR ELECTION RESULTS, DOES "NOT WANT TO AVOID SUCH RESPONSIBILITY." JAPANESE PRESS INTERPRETED REMARKS AS INDICATION

HE WOULD RESIGN. PARTY SEC-GEN UCHIDA TOLD REPORTERS PM EXPECTED ANNOUNCE FINAL DECISION EARLY NEXT WEEK (REUTER, PHINQ; SUN; WSJ; JOC).

CHIEF CABINET SEC IDE SAID MIKI STUDYING PROPOSALS CALLING FOR LDP REFORM, WILL SUBMIT THEM TO PARTY EXECS WITHIN 2-3 DAYS. IDE SAYS "THIS ACTION WILL MEAN HIS OFFICIAL EX-PRESSION" DECISION RESIGN. PARTY LEADERS REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING HOLDING CAUCUS BEFORE NEW PM ELECTED IN EXTRA-ORDINARY DIET SESSION AROUND 12/25 (SAAR, WP; REUTER TOKYO). NYT REPORTS MIKI TOLD CABINET MEMBERS THEY WERE ONLY CARETAKERS, WILL RESIGN BY LAW WHEN SPECIAL DIET SESSION CONVENED. ADDS NO MAJOR POLICY CHANGES EXPECTED UNDER NEXT CONSERVATIVE GOVT, IN WHICH FUKUDA APPEARS FRONT-RUNNER FOR PREMIERSHIP.

TRANSPORT MINISTRY WILL FORMALLY REJECT EC PROPOSAL CALLING FOR EQUAL DISTRIBUTION SHIPBUILDING ORDERS. SPOKESMAN SAYS WOULD BE MORE REALISTIC IF EC FOLLOWED JAPANESE EXAMPLE, LAUNCHED OWN PROGRAMS CUT BACK OPERATIONS/BUILDING CAPACITY (CULLISON, JOC).

TEACHERS/HOUSEWIVES GROUP CAMPAIGNS FOR END COMPULSORY SEX SEGREGATION IN JPN'S STATE-RUN SCHOOLS. "KATEIKA KAI" SEEKING EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES/CHANGE IN TRADITIONAL JAPANESE PHILOSOPHY THAT BOYS TRAINED FOR CAREER, GIRLS FOR HOME (DALE, REUTER TOKYO).

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JAPAN FUND CORP VP CONSIDERS INVESTMENT IN JAPANESE ECONOMY SEES EVENTUAL REORIENTATION TO LOWER GROWTH RATE, BUT SAYS WILL CONTINUE 7-8 PCT OVER NEXT 4-5 YEARS (CHITRIB).

TRANSPORT MINISTRY ANNOUNCES 7 MAJOR PORTS SCHEDULED BEGIN CHARGING ENTRY FEES FOR EVERY INCOMING MERCHANT VESSEL BEGINNING 1/1 (JOC).

TOYOTA HAS BEGUN MARKETING, IN PHILS, MULTIPURPOSE "BASIC UTILITY VEHICLE," WHICH CAN BE CONVERTED INTO MINIBUS/PICKUP TRUCK. FIRM PLANS INTRODUCE BUV IN OTHER COUNTRIES SOON (CHITRIB).

SUN CARRIES BRIEF AP STORY/FOTO PEARL HARBOR CEREMONY. HAWAII GOV ASKED REMEMBRANCE 2300 WHO LOST LIVES, BUT SAID HATRED/VENGEANCE/MALICE SHOULD BE FORGOTTEN.

4. THAILAND

INTERIOR MINISTER TELLS NEWS CONF HE RECEIVED REPORTS VN "LOOKING FOR A CHANCE" INVADE THAILAND 2/15. SAYS VN PLANNED CREATE TROUBLE BY USING REFUGES TO FIGHT

AGAINST THEMSELVES/PUT BLAME ON THAILAND. ADDS RTG HAS MADE PREPARATIONS COPE W/SITUATION, BUT GIVES NO DETAILS (POHLAMPHONG, REUTER BANGKOK).

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NEW THAI MIL GOVT SAYS WILL TAKE NO CRIMINAL ACTION AGAINST FORMER PREMIER THANOM/DEP PREMIER PRAPHAS/AIDE NARONG FOR ALLEGED ROLE IN SHOOTING DEMONSTRATORS IN '73. OBSERVERS BELIEVE DECISION IS INDICATION NEW GOVT FIRMLY IN CONTROL, DOESN'T FEAR NEW OUTBURST FROM DISSIDENT STUDENTS DEMANDING 3 MEN BE PUNISHED (UPI, WP).

NUMBER VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVING IN FISHING BOATS TO THAILAND INCREASED FROM 447 IN OCT TO 625 IN NOV (WP).

5. PHILIPPINES

MORITZ (CSM) REPORTS MARCOS HAS HEIGHTENED CONFRONTATION
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W/CHURCH BY 12/5 CLOSURE CATHOLIC WEEKLY PAPER "SIGNS OF THE TIMES," WHICH HAS BEEN OUTSPOKEN CRITIC MARTIAL-LAW. SOME OBSERVERS SUGGEST MARCOS TRYING CONTAIN CATHOLIC POL OPPOSITION W/O PROVOKING TOTAL CONFRONTATION W/CHURCH. SAY INTENDS KEEP CHURCH DIVIDED BY CONVINCING CATHOLIC CONSERVATIVE LEADERS CHURCH NOT THREATENED LONG AS IT DOESN'T DIRECTLY CHALLENGE GOVT.

SUBIC/CLARK MIL HEALTH OFFICERS CONCERNED OVER NEW STRAIN PENICILIN-RESISTENT GONORRHEA, WHICH NOW ACCOUNTS FOR 15 PCT ALL REPORTED CASES. CLARK'S SURGEON GENERAL SAYS US WILLING HELP SET UP EFFECTIVE ANTI-VD PROGRAM IN CITY, BUT LOCAL OFFICIALS UNCOOPERATIVE (WIDEMAN, NYT).

6. INDONESIA

USSR HAS AGREED HOLD NEGOTS FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY OF POWER PLANT/300-MIL-DOL ALUMINUM PROJECT ON SUMATRA (AP, WSJ).

7. MALAYSIA

EXXON EXPECTED SIGN OIL PRODUCTION-SHARING AGREEMENT 12/8 W/MALAYSIA'S STATE OIL FIRM, PETRONAS. TERMS OF AGREEMENT NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE (WSJ).

8. AUSTRALIA

RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA REVALUED DOLLAR TUES, 2 PCT ABOVE RECORD DEVALUATION 17/5 PCT BROUGHT IN 9 DAYS AGO. REVERSAL IN MASSIVE OUTWARD FLOW OF FUNDS CITED AS REASON (PHINQ, CHITRIB).

GOA ANNOUNCES SELECTIVE TARIFF CUTS ON ABOUT 900 IMPORTED ITEMS--ONE-THIRD COUNTRY'S TOTAL IMPORTS (AP, WSJ).

AFTER 4-YEAR SUSPENSION, GOA GIVES COUNTRY'S ONLY PRODUCING URANIUM MINE PERMISSION RESUME EXPORTS (REUTER CANBERRA).

PAN AM WILL SET RECORD FRIDAY WHEN NEW 747 FLIES 7400 UNCLASSIFIED

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MILES NON-STOP TO SYDNEY (REUTER 12/7).

9. GENERAL

SEN DOLE PROPOSES LEGISLATION REQUIRING ANY ISSUANCE PRESIDENTIAL PARDON FOR DRAFT RESISTERS BE LINKED TO SETTING UP MIA TASK FORCE (WP, CHI S-T).

AID OFFICIALS SAY POISONOUS PESTICIDES, BANNED IN US, SHIPPED TO INDONESIA/SVN BETWEEN 1972-1975 FOR USE ON COTTON CROPS. AID AGREED 12/75 SUSPEND PRACTICE AFTER 4 NATL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGS FILED SUIT IN DC DISTRICT COURT. AGENCY CONTENTS WAS UNAWARE CHEMICAL'S HARMFUL EFFECTS INCL VARIETY NERVE DISORDERS, WHEN FINANCING APPVD (MORGAN/MILIUS, WP).

SENS EAGLETON/HATHAWAY CALL FOR IMPORT QUOTAS ON SHOES IN ORDER AID DOMESTIC INDUSTRY. AS LARGEST EXPORTERS TO US, SK/TAIWAN WOULD BE MOST AFFECTED (AP, CHITRIB).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. KOREA

WSTAR (12/7) QUESTIONS WILLINGNESS/SINCERITY NEW HOUSE SPEAKER O'NEILL/HOUSE ETHICS CMTE PURSUE STRENGTHENING CODE ETHICS AND CONDUCT VIGOROUS PROBE "KOREAN SCANDAL." WONDERS WHETHER DEMS WILL "BE AS INTERESTED IN JANUARY IN PURSUING SCANDAL IN THEIR RANKS AS SOME OF THEM SEEM TO BE IN DECEMBER."

OLIPHANT POL CARTOON (WSTAR 12/7) SHOWS GROUP MEN HUDDLING W/FEAR, ANXIETY AND AVERSION IN DOORWAY HOUSE ETHICS CMTE, LOOKING OUT AT BOWING, SMILING KOREAN OFFERING THEM LARGE ENVELOPE STUFFED W/MONEY. KOREAN SAYS, "COMPLIMENTS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH KOREA, A SMALL DONATION TO AID YOU IN ANY INVESTIGATIONS YOU MAY BE UNDERTAKING."

NYT'S MALCOLM SAYS SK WOMEN PLAYING INCREASINGLY PROMINENT ROLE IN ROK HUMAN RIGHTS STRUGGLE. NOTES "FEW DOZEN" IN RECENT MONTHS HAVE HELD PICKETING DEMONSTRATIONS, INT'L

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NEWS CONFERENCES, AND DISSIDENT PRAYER MEETINGS. STATES WOMEN HELD FOR DAYS LONG QUESTIONING, THEIR PHONES TAPPED, THEY AND FRIENDS FOLLOWED/INTIMIDATED VARIOUS WAYS.

WREN (NYT, MOSCOW) WRITES THAT "INFORMED DIPLOMATS" LINK SUDDEN DEPARTURE AT LEAST 12 NK DIPLS FROM MOSCOW EMB TO REVELATIONS NK SCANDINAVIAN SMUGGLING/BLACKMARKET OPS. THEY SEE PYONGYANG COORDINATING EUROPEAN ACTIVITIES THRU ITS MOSCOW EMB.

11. KOREA/JAPAN

SPERLING (CSM) REPORTS THAT AMONG OTHER ITEMS MANSFIELD DISCUSSED WITH NEWSMEN AT "GOOD-BYE" BREAKFAST, WAS SEN'S DISCLOSURE THAT ROKG REP, 2 YEARS AGO, APPROACHED HIM AND HUGH SCOTT WITH OFFER OF PAID-IN-FULL SK TRIP AND 2,500-DOL STIPEND APIECE FOR THEM TO VISIT SK, ACCEPT HONORARY DEGREE--BUT "WE BOTH TURNED IT DOWN." MANSFIELD URGED US PAY INCREASING ATTENTION TO FAR EAST, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT OURS IS NOT ASIAN BUT PACIFIC POLICY. SAID ONE OF BASIC OBJECTIVES SHOULD BE REMOVAL US FORCES FROM SK; ADVISED US "PAY CONSTANT ATTENTION TO JAPAN."

12. JAPAN

WP SEES FUKUDA PROBABLY REPLACING MIKI, THEREBY RE-ESTABLISH CONSENSUS. BUT FEARS THIS NOT LIKELY GIVE JAPAN GOVT WHOSE STRENGTH IS COMMENSURATE WITH COUNTRY'S IMPOSING ECON POWER.

TO CHITRIB, IF ELECTION WAS RESPONSIBLE/DEMOCRATIC PROTEST AGAINST LDP SHORTCOMINGS, MIKI'S REACTION CAN ALSO BE CONSIDERED RESPONSIBLE/DEMOCRATIC ONE. MAINTAINS IF LDP CAN FOLLOW THROUGH ON MIKI'S CALL FOR RECONSTRUCTION/REMOVAL CORRUPTION/END TO INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLES, THEN IDEAL OF FREE GOVT WILL HAVE BEEN SERVED WELL IN JAPAN--AND INSTITUTION OF DEMOCRACY COULD GAIN NEW STRENGTH.

IMPORTANCE OF JAPAN'S ELECTION IS THAT IT WAS HELD AT ALL, SAYS WSJ, SINCE DEMOCRACY ORPHAN NOT ONLY IN ASIA BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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THROUGHOUT WORLD. FEELS ANY UNCERTAINTY ELECTION MAY HAVE OCCASIONED MUST BE REGARDED AS SMALL PRICE PAY IN RETURN FOR EXAMPLE JAPAN SETS WITH COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY. DOUBTS OUTCOME WILL CAUSE ANY SHIFT IN GOJ'S PRO-US WHICH LARGELY SYMBOLIC, WOULD NOT ALARM US. WHICH LARGELY SYMBOLIC, WOULD NOT ALARM US.

SUN'S SEIDEN (TOKYO) STRESSES THAT DEMOCRATIC ELECTORAL SYSTEM FINALLY WORKING, AS FOR FIRST TIME IN RECENT YEARS JAPANESE VOTERS USED IT CLEARLY TO REGISTER ANGER/DISCONTENT, POINT COUNTRY IN NEW DIRECTION.

13. CHINA

CSM'S SPERLING REPORTS MANSFIELD, IN "GOOD-BYE" BREAKFAST APPEARANCE WITH REPORTERS, URGED CARTER VISIT PEKING "SOON AS POSSIBLE" AFTER TAKING OFFICE. SEN SAID CARTER'S EXPRESSED WISHES THAT CHINESE ENVOYS MEET HIM IN WASHINGTON SHORTLY AFTER INAUGURATION WERE UNREALISTIC--THAT NO PRC REPS WOULD MEET CARTER HERE BEFORE US RECOGNIZES PEKING. MANSFIELD URGED US REAFFIRM SHANGHAI AGREEMENT'S PRINCIPLE OF NORMALIZATION RELS; ADDED THAT CARTER, WITHOUT SENATE AFFIRMATION, COULD RECOGNIZE PRC, AND THAT THIS WOULD AUTOMATICALLY ABROGATE US TREATY RELATIONSHIP WITH ROC.

WIEGHART (NYDN) SAYS, CLEARLY THERE ARE MANY AREAS WHERE MAN OF MANSFIELD'S PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL QUALITIES COULD BE OF SERVICE, AND USLO CHIEF IS ONE SUCH POST. SAYS SEN RESPECTED AS ASIAN SCHOLAR IN PEKING AND HIS ADVANCING YEARS WOULD SERVE AS ADVANTAGE THERE.

WP FINDS IT UNCONSCIONABLE THAT PRC CONTINUES MUCK UP INTL ATMOSPHERE WITH RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT FROM NUKE BOMB TESTS--ARROGATING TO ITSELF RIGHT TO CONDUCT FORM OF UNDECLARED RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE WHICH, IN THEORY AT LEAST, INTL COMMUNITY CONDEMNS. DECLARES SELLING PEKING US TECHNOLOGY FACILITATING UNDERGROUND TESTING--AS PROPOSED BY FEDERATION AMERICAN SCIENTISTS--WOULD BE NOT ONLY TO FIGHT POLLUTION BUT BECOME KIND OF DIRECT MIL PARTNER. SUCH "LARGE STEP" WOULD RAISE ANXIETY OF SOVIET, JAPAN; ISSUE UNCLASSIFIED

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OF COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY SALES TO PEKING OBVIOUSLY TOO BIG FOR RESOLUTION WITHIN POLLUTION CONTEXT ALONE. HOPES CARTER WILL LOOK FOR WAYS TO MAKE FRESH START RE INTL CURBS ON ATMOSPHERIC NUKE TESTING--PERHAPS SUCH AS SANE'S RECENT PROPOSALS FOR INVOLVING PEKING IN FUTURE ARMS NEGOTIATIONS.

URGING "FAIRNESS" FOR HAK, CSM'S DRUMMOND NUMBERS AMONG SECSTATE'S POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS HIS LEADERSHIP BRING ABOUT GREATLY IMPROVED SINO-US RELS.

14. PHILIPPINES

SUN SEES "LITTLE TEMPEST" BETWEEN DOS/MANILA OVER BASES AGREEMENT EXPLAINED SIMPLY BY GOP FEELING THAT FORD IS LAME

DUCK, AND CARTER IS MAN TO DEAL WITH, SINCE IT IS HE WHO MUST PERSUADE CONGRESS PAY FOR RESULT. BELIEVES "MANILA DICTATORSHIP" IS SORT OF EMBARRASSING ALLY CARTER IMPLIED DURING CAMPAIGN HE WOULD FIND LESS COZY THAN HIS PREDECESSORS. YET, CLARK/SUBIC VITAL TO ROLE US MEANS CONTINUE PLAYING IN DEFENSE W PAC/EA; SO, APPEARS CARTER ADMIN WILL BE TESTED ON FOREIGN RELS EARLY.

TO NYT, IT IS FORTUNATE THAT NEW BASES PACT WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL CARTER CAN TAKE FRESH LOOK; UNWISE THAT HAK EVEN ATTEMPTED DURING FEW REMAINING WEEKS IN OFFICE TO PUSH THROUGH BILLION-DOL AID PACT FOR "INCREASINGLY REPRESSIVE" MANILA GOVT. FINDS PARTICULARLY DISCONCERTING IN WHOLE EPISODE, APART FROM PRIORITY GIVEN MIL BASES OVER HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS, WAS HAK'S WILLINGNESS PLEDGE HUGE SUMS THAT ONLY CONGRESS CAN APPROPRIATE. ROBINSON

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